

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/242,814

Examiner

AHMED ELALLAM

Applicant(s)

ENARI ET AL.

Art Unit

2662

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to IDS faxed on 2/24/2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 5-7,15,17,18,23 and 24, respectively renumbered 1-8.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 25 February 1999 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 6/25/1999
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

This communication is responsive to the faxed PTO Form 1449, filed on 6/25/1999, which Form was missing, and was ground for the latest Ex Parte Quayle action.

1. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art of records fails to teach or suggest the followings:

A multi-channel digital data sending-out apparatus comprising:
management means for supervising information gathered from at least one information source, programming means for supervising information of digital data being sent and controlling the process of the digital data to be sent out, registering means for registering the information of the digital data gathered from the at least one information source to a server in order to be sent out, holding means for holding the digital data, sending-out means for sending out the digital data held by the holding means to a transmission path as multi-channel digital data, connection means for interconnecting the management means, programming means, registering means, holding means and the sending-out means to permit each of the means to access at least one other of the means, conversion means for converting the format of the digital data held by the holding means into a transmission format, and for multiplexing time information service

identification information, and service management information to generate a stream which is sent out, and auxiliary holding means for holding at least a two-day installment of the digital data, progress information and system configuration information, as indicated in independent claims 5 and 6.

A multi-channel digital data sending-out apparatus comprising:
management means for supervising information gathered from at least one information source, programming means for supervising information of digital data being sent and controlling the process of the digital data to be sent out, registering means for registering the information of the digital data gathered from the at least one information source to a server in order to be sent out, holding means for holding the digital data, sending-out means for sending out the digital data held by the holding means to a transmission path as multi-channel digital data, connection means for interconnecting the management means, programming means, registering means, holding means and the sending-out means to permit each of the means to access at least one other of the means, conversion means for converting the format of the digital data held by the holding means into a transmission format, and for multiplexing time information service identification information, and service management information to generate a stream which is sent out, wherein the conversion means comprises current operating system conversion means; and stand-by conversion means to be

substituted for the current operating system conversion means in case of a malfunction of the current operating system, as indicated in independent claim 7.

A multi-channel digital data sending-out apparatus comprising:
holding means for holding digital data to be sent out, conversion means for converting the format of the digital data held by the holding means into a format for transmission, a sending-out means for sending the digital data converted by the conversion means to a transmission path as multi-channel digital data, monitoring means for monitoring digital data read out from the holding means, digital data converted by the conversion means or digital data sent out by the sending-out means, and supplying means for supplying the digital data read out from the holding means, digital data converted by the conversion means or digital data sent out by the sending out means, wherein the monitoring means includes detection means for detecting a level of the digital data, and wherein the detection means issues an alarm if said digital data is not monitored for longer than a predetermined period, as indicated in independent claim 15.

A multi-channel digital data sending-out apparatus comprising:
holding means for holding digital data to be sent out, conversion means for converting the format of the digital data held by the holding means into a format for transmission, a sending-out means for sending the digital data converted by the conversion means to a transmission path as multi-channel digital data,

monitoring means for monitoring digital data read out from the holding means, digital data converted by the conversion means or digital data sent out by the sending-out means, and supplying means for supplying the digital data read out from the holding means, digital data converted by the conversion means or digital data sent out by the sending out means, wherein the sending-out means comprises:

first sending-out means for performing sending-out processing,
second sending-out means for performing sending-out processing, and
switching means for switching from the first sending-out means or the second sending-out means to the other of the first and second sending out means in the event of a malfunction of either the first or second sending out means, and wherein the monitoring means includes a switch for selecting digital data to be monitored, and wherein the switch is responsive to the switching means, as indicated in independent claim 17.

A multi-channel digital data sending-out apparatus comprising:
holding means for holding digital data to be sent out, conversion means for converting the format of the digital data held by the holding mans into a format for transmission, a sending-out means for sending the digital data converted by the conversion means to a transmission path as multi-channel digital data,
monitoring means for monitoring digital data read out from the holding means, digital data converted by the conversion means or digital data sent out by the

sending-out means, and supplying means for supplying the digital data read out from the holding means, digital data converted by the conversion means or digital data sent out by the sending out means, wherein the monitoring means for monitoring the digital data converted by the conversion means displays information concerning digital data converted by the conversion means and sent out, and digital data which is to be converted and sent out, in a progress table, as indicated in independent claim 18.

A multi-channel digital data sending-out apparatus comprising:
programming means for supervising the information of digital data to be sent out as its progress, programming the digital data to be sent out as to its progress, and for generating progress information, holding means for holding the information of the digital data, the progress information, and any other information necessary for sending out the digital data, conversion means for converting the format of the digital data into a format for transmission, sending-out means for sending out the digital data converted by the conversion means to a transmission path as multi-channel digital data, and monitoring means for monitoring the programming means, conversion means or the sending-out means as to malfunctioning thereof so that required information held by the holding means is supplied to the programming means, conversion means or the sending-out means, wherein the sending-out means comprises:

first sending-out means for performing sending-out processing,

second sending-out means for performing sending-out processing, and switching means for switching one of the first sending-out means or the second sending-out means to the other if one of the first and second sending out means in disorder, wherein the first sending-out means and the second sending-out means monitor each other so that, if one of the first sending-out means and the second sending-out means malfunctions, the other signals the monitoring means, as indicated in independent claim 23.

A multi-channel digital data sending-out apparatus comprising:
programming means for supervising the information of digital data to be sent out as its progress, programming the digital data to be sent out as to its progress, and for generating progress information, holding means for holding the information of the digital data, the progress information, and any other information necessary for sending out the digital data, conversion means for converting the format of the digital data into a format for transmission, sending-out means for sending out the digital data converted by the conversion means to a transmission path as multi-channel digital data, and monitoring means for monitoring the programming means, conversion means or the sending-out means as to malfunctioning thereof so that required information held by the holding means is supplied to the programming means, conversion means or the sending-out means, wherein the sending-out means comprises:

first sending-out means for performing sending-out processing,

second sending-out means for performing sending-out processing, and
switching means for switching one of the first sending-out means or the
second sending-out means to the other if one of the first and second sending out
means in disorder, wherein the one of first sending-out means or the second
sending-out means that is operating, advises the holding means in a pre-set
manner, as indicated in independent claim 24

2. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to AHMED ELALLAM whose telephone number is (571) 272-3097. The examiner can normally be reached on 9-5:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kizou Hassan can be reached on (571) 272-3088. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

AHMED ELALLAM
Examiner
Art Unit 2662
2 March 2005



JOHN PEZZLO
PRIMARY EXAMINER